

Niagara County Music Educators' Association
Minutes of November 2011 Executive Board Meeting
Monday, November 1, 2011 @ Panes Restaurant

Present: P. Monaco, K. Fish, T. Rohring, T. Martin, D. Hutter, S. Teichman, K. Duncan, N. Alexander, P. Wos

Meeting called to order at 6:16 PM.

The meeting began with a presentation by Robin Parkinson, Director of Education for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. She spoke about the BPO's interest in advocating increased involvement with Niagara County music programs. The Educator Award ceremony is Saturday, April 28 in the evening at Kleinhans Music Hall. It includes a dinner followed by the awards presentation and a BPO concert.

Robin stated that most Classics concert tickets are available at 50% discount for music educators. Tickets may be purchased for this discount online by using the code EDUBPO. There is no limit on the number of tickets or eligible concerts that educators may take advantage of.

In March or April, the BPO will do a live broadcast called "Inventions and Innovations," partnered with the Buffalo Museum of Science. The performance will be broadcast completely online; the BPO will provide a password for a link to the video stream.

Robin encouraged anyone who has ideas for helping with BPO/NCMEA connections to contact her at the BPO.

Secretary Report

Motion to accept the minutes of the October 2011 meeting by Karen, second by Debbie. Approved.

Treasurer Report

Debbie reported a balance of \$9,257.39 as of November 1. All district participation fees have been received with the exception of North Tonawanda, and their purchase order has been received. Motion to approve report by Tammy, second by Karen. Approved.

President Report

Paul expressed appreciation for being in the separate room for our meeting and stated he would have items to bring up to the board later in the meeting.

Vice President Report

Karen announced that she has not yet received anything from anyone regarding the NCMEA scholarships. She reminded all that November 18 is the deadline. Motion to approve report by Tim, second by Stephanie. Approved.

Membership Report

Stephanie stated that there are 76 members, plus 12 business members, and 7 of the business members have paid for full-page program ads. New business members include Young Audiences of WNY plus renewals from some past members. Motion to approve by Karen, second by Debbie. Approved.

Band VP Report

Tammy distributed a paper with info on the solo festival; she has 8 brass/17 woodwind/3 percussion judges. Motion to approve report by Karen, second by Debbie. Approved.

Choral VP Report

Ken Fick absent, no report.

Jazz VP Report

Tim reported that he had nothing new to report. . . .

Orchestra VP Report

Kevin commented on guest conductors for orchestra. He commented that for Jr High and Sr High levels, having a local conductor ("in-house") means that most kids will have a conductor from their own school, due to the small number of string teachers in Niagara County schools. Debbie said that Sr High always has a guest conductor, so this new initiative would target the Jr High orchestra. Motion to approve by Stephanie, second by Tammy. Approved.

Advocacy Report

Mary Parsnick absent, no report.

SoloChair (Instrumental) Report

Amanda Burdick absent, no report.

SoloChair (Vocal) Report

Carolyn Unitas-Roos absent, no report.

BPO Education Representative Report

Norm thanked Kevin for making sure that all BPO information was either placed on the Monday memos or given space on the NCMEA website. He also thanked Paul for inviting Robin to make her presentation at the meeting.

The BPO Music Educator Award: Is there a committee, a process? Norm would like to see a process begin NOW so that the general membership could be informed and the process be near completion at the February general membership meetings. He said that ECMEA uses a nomination process, then the nominees are given to a committee that scrutinizes the nominations and makes a decision. The ECMEA committee consists of a college rep, past winners, and a couple of other at-large members. Norm offered to be part of this selection committee, as he is a past winner, and as a retiree he has no "internal" connection in the selection process. Motion to have Norm chair the Educator Selection Committee by Tammy, second by Kevin. Motion approved.

Motion to approve report by Karen, second by Tim. Approved.

Old Business

The letter to superintendents has been sent. The private schools (DeSales, Holy Ghost, St. John) did not get one sent; Paul will do that soon.

NCMEA Day for Educators: Paul hasn't yet discussed a collaboration idea with Orleans/Niagara BOCES for 2012-13.

New Business

All-county labels have been received and distributed. This year's color is TEAL. (Ooooooh; aaaaaahh.)

Paul received a request from NYSSMA for an updated directory of NCMEA member schools and staff. Discussion took place, noting that NYSSMA already has this information from members, and it sounds like a way for NYSSMA to solicit new memberships. Motion to decline sending directory by Debbie, second by Karen. Approved.

Paul spoke about NYSSMA and its history of continually increasing fees for events. He discussed the idea of sending a communiqué to NYSSMA asking for an explanation detailing the actual costs of the conference, fees, and other increasing costs to students, teachers, and school districts.

Motion to adjourn by Tammy, second by Debbie. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul M. Vos
NCMEA Secretary

UPDATED SCORING SUMMARY

NAME	Motions	Seconds	Total Points
Tammy	6	3	9
Debbie	4	4	8
Karen	5	2	7
Carolyn	4	3	7
Amanda	2	2	4
Mary	0	4	4
Tim	1	2	3
Stephanie	1	2	3
Kevin	0	1	1

NEXT NCMEA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Monday, January 9, 2012 @ Panes Restaurant
6:00 PM